

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A forklift comprising:

a body;

a wheel disposed to the body;

a plurality of fork arms attached to an front end of the body for carrying cargo; and

a mode switching section for switching over modes of operation between a normal running mode and a turning mode in which the body is turnable,

wherein the turning mode adapts the body to be turned about a center of turn specifically identified to be at or within a predetermined distance from one or more of the vicinity of distal ends of the fork arms.

2. (previously presented): The forklift as set forth in claim 1, wherein the fork arms are provided left and right at the front of the body; and

the body is adapted to be turned about a distal end of either of the left and right fork arms as the center of turn.

3. (previously presented): The forklift as set forth in claim 1, wherein the fork arms are provided left and right at the front of the body; and

the body is adapted to be turned about, as the center of turn, substantially a central portion of a line connecting distal ends of the fork arms with each other.

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4. (previously presented): The forklift as set forth in claim 1, wherein the fork arms are provided left and right at the front of the body; and

the body is adapted to be turned about as the center of turn a position a predetermined distance forward from the distal end of each of the fork arms.

5. (previously presented): The forklift as set forth in claim 1, further comprising a center-of-turn selecting section for selecting a desired center of turn from a plurality of centers of turn.

6. (previously presented): The forklift as set forth in claim 5, wherein the wheel is set at a predetermined angle according to an operation of a steering wheel when the center-of-turn selecting section selects a center of turn so that the body is turned about the center of turn selected.

7. (previously presented): The forklift as set forth in claim 5, wherein the wheel is automatically set at a predetermined angle when the center-of-turn selecting section selects a center of turn so that the body is turned about the center of turn so selected.

8. (previously presented): The forklift as set forth in claim 2, wherein the distal end of the left fork is set as a center of turn when the steering wheel is turned counterclockwise in the turning mode; and

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the distal end of the right fork is set as a center of turn when the steering wheel is turned clockwise.

9. (previously presented): The forklift as set forth in claim 1, wherein the fork arms are provided movably in longitudinal directions of the body,

the forklift further comprising a position detecting section for detecting a position to which the fork arms are moved relative to the body; and a center-of-turn position calculating section for calculating a center of turn of the body based on the position of the fork arms detected by the position detecting section.

10. (previously presented): The forklift as set forth in claim 1, wherein the mode of the cargo handling vehicle is switched over from the turning mode to the normal running mode when the turn of the body is completed and the body is prohibited from running until the wheels are restored to a condition in which the body is allowed to move straight.

11. (previously presented): The forklift as set forth in claim 10, further comprising an information section for informing that the body is ready to run when the condition is restored in which the body is allowed to move straight.

12. (currently amended): A forklift comprising:

a body;

a wheel disposed to the body;

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a plurality of fork arms attached to ~~an-a~~ front end of the body for carrying cargo; and
a mode switching section for switching ~~ever~~-modes of operation between a normal
running mode and a turning mode in which the body is turnable,

wherein the turning mode adapts the body to be turned about substantially a
longitudinally and transversely central portion of the fork arms as a center of turn.

13. (previously presented): The forklift as set forth in claim 12, wherein the wheel is set
at a predetermined angle according to an operation of a steering wheel so that the body turns
about the center of turn.

14. (previously presented): The forklift as set forth in claim 12, wherein the wheel is
automatically set to a predetermined angle so that the body turns about the center of turn.

15. (previously presented): The forklift as set forth in claim 12, wherein the fork arms
are provided in such a manner as to freely extend in longitudinal directions of the body,
the forklift further comprising:

a position detecting section for detecting a position to which the fork arms are moved
relative to the body; and

a center-of-turn position calculating section for calculating a center-of-turn position of for
the body based on the position of the fork arms detected by the position detecting section.

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16. (previously presented): The forklift as claimed in claim 12, wherein the mode of the cargo handling vehicle is switched over from the turning mode to the normal running mode when the turn of the body is completed and the body is prohibited from running until the wheel is restored to a condition in which the body is allowed to move straight.

17. (previously presented): The forklift as set forth in claim 16, further comprising an information section for informing that the body is ready to run when the condition is restored in which the body is allowed to move straight.

18. (original): A cargo handling vehicle comprising:
a body;
a wheel disposed to the body;
a mode switching section for switching over modes of operation between a normal running mode and a turning mode in which the body is turnable; and
a center-of-turn selecting section for selecting a desired center of turn out of a plurality of centers of turn in the turning mode,
wherein the body is adapted to turn about a center of turn selected by the center-of-turn selecting section as a center of the turn.